"Fantana" and "The Rollicking Girl" Still Running-Popular Price Houses Resume-Wistaria Grove Has New Features-Novelties at the Seaside

New York's list of midsummer amusement places will have an addition to-morrow when the New York Theater reopens with George M. Cohan and his own musical comedy, "Little Johnny Jones." This is the eighth engagement of the company in this city. The cast remains practically the same as in the previous appearances of this company in the city, with the exception that Truly Shattuck's place has been taken by Adele Rafter, who will play Florabel Fly, the San Francisco newspaper woman. Tom Lewis continues in the character of The Unknown, a rôle scarcely secondary in interest to that played by Mr. Cohan himself. Other members of the company are Jerry J. Cohan, Charles Bachmann, un J. Ryan, Helen F. Cohan, Edith Tyler and Ethel Levey.

"Fantana" is to stay at the Lyric until late in October and by that time it will have had nearly 400 performances in New York. One helper to the prosperity of the play is that the Lyric has entrances both on Forty-second and Forty-third streets and can be kept reasonably cool at all times.

At the Herald Square "The Rollicking Girl" seems to have been aided rather than injured by the little cessation of its run in the hot spell. Sam Bernard is as amusing as ever in his part of the wigmaker, Schmalz, and Hattie Williams and the rest of the company are capable assistants.

"Lifting the Lid," "The Whole Damm Family" and the comic automobile chase are still the attractions of the New Amster dam Aerial Theater. Fay Templeton, Louis Harrison, Virginia Earl, Stella Mayhew, Maude Lambert, Julius Tannen and D. L. Don, with a chorus of eighty, help to make a lively evening's entertainment. The roof show will continue until the New Amsterdam opens in September with Liebler & Co.'s production of "The Prodigal Scn."

The novelty at the Wistaria Grove on the New York Roof this week will be the Three Sisters Herrog-Camaras, acrobats, from the London Hippadrome. The Juggling Bannons is another new act. Ferry Corwey and the Three Zoellers will be re-tained. Le Domino Rouge and Elsie Janis are, of course, central figures of the second half of the program.

Carmencita, who returns to America after a long absence, heads the bill at Hammerstein's Paradise Roof Gardens. Others in the show are the Zancigs in their thought transference act, the Six Musical Cutys, Alliene and his trained monkey, Hayes and Healey and the Taylor Sisters.

A number of the popular price theaters have begun, or are soon to begin, their The Thalia opened last night with "The White Caps," a new melodrama. The Third Avenue also opened last night with "The Convict's Daughter."

The New Star opens on Aug. 5 with Julian Rose, the Hebrew impersonator, in Theodore Kremer's thriller, "Fast Life in New York." The Murray Hill will start the season on Aug. 19 with Charles Bowser in "Papa's Boy."

Clyde Fitch's "Nathan Hale" is to be produced for the first time by any stock mpany at Proctor's Fifth Avenue Theater this week. The title rôle will be played by Howard Kyle, who has starred in the piece

on the road.

The Fifty-eighth street house will have another stock company novelty in W. J. Kiernan's melodrama, "The Gunner's Mate." The cast will include James Durkin,

"Forget-Me-Not," which Rose Coghlan used on a starring tour, will be played at the 125th street theater. Beatrice Morgan will have the part of Stephanie. James B. Wilson and Geoffrey Stein are also in the

cast.

Della Fox heads the vaudeville bill at Proctor's Twenty-third street. The extra feature is the Four Lukens, gymnasts.

Genaro and Bailey, Charley Case and the Rappo Sisters are also in the bill.

Keith's headliner for the first week in August is John F. Byrne and his company comedians and acrobats, presenting for the first time in vaudeville the pantomimic comedy "The Swiss Express," a condensed comedy "The Swiss Express," a condensed version of "Le Voyage en Suisse." On the same bill will be Frank Bush, the original Hebrew storyteller; Clayton Kennedy and Mattle Rooney in the musical comedy diversion, "A Happy Medium"; the Misses Tobin, the Young American Five, Burke's musical dogs, Del-A-Phone, the mimic and whistler; Dan Quinlan and Keller Mack, and others.

Tony Pastor has a bill headed by Miss Morton and Paul Nicholson in a farcical sketch, "The Ladies' Tailor." Inman, Wake-field and company, Holman, Hayward and Hayward, Hawthorne and Burt, the three Weston sisters and Owen and Owen are others in the long list.

Conterno's band continues its evening concerts at Terrace Garden, in East Fifty-

Huber's Fourteenth Street Museum will open to-morrow evening with Mrs. Emille Hoch, one of the wives of John Hoch, as a feature.

Among the figures that are attracting attention at the Eden Musée are those of the Mikado, the Czar and the Kaiser. They are in the group of rulers of the world. In the center is President Roosevelt dressed in civilian clothing.

SHOWS AT THE SEASIDE. New Bill at the Manhattan-Changes at

the Big Parks. The new bill at the Manhattan Beach ater this week is headed by George Evans "The Honey Boy" and Cheridah

Simpson, the comic opera singer. Another interesting feature is Rossi's musical horse. The rest of the bill includes the Peschkoff troupe of Russian dancers, Mayme Remington and her Buster Brownies, the Yoscarys and Harding and Ah Sid. Japanese day will be celebrated at Pain's Amphitheater to-morrow when some fire ortraits of war heroes will be shown. On Wednesday evening the soldiers of the United States army at the neighboring

posts will attend. Special religious services will be held in the arena of the Boer War enclosure at Brighton Beach at 10:30 o'clock this morning. The entire camp will turn out in parade and march to service, which will be conducted by the chaplain, the Rev. Wil-liam D. Hughes, assisted by Gen. Piet Cronje. Cart. Arthur W. Lewis, manager of the Boer War spectacle, has extended an invitation to the public to be present.

Luna Park reports an attendance this year in excess of either of its previous summers. The shows, new and old, are drawing well and the free circus over the lagoon in the center of the park is constantly having new features.

povered that there is nothing the summer amusement hunter likes better than to be moved about, and the management prides sword cutterly on nine such attractions ranging from trophy.

Young Consul, the chimpenses which recently arrived at the Bostock wild animal show at Coney Island, already wears his lothes without nervousness about his miniature apartment with the ease and expertness of a Harlem cliff dweller. Bonavita's lions, Mms. Morrelli and her leopards, Rey (file) and the wild animal musician comedy are as popular as ever.

"The New York to the North Pole" show with its illusion of a vessel moving to the farthest north and the "Johnstown Flood" with its striking storm effects, are keeping Surf avenue crowds amused at Coney Island.

"The Galveston Flood," with its new musical numbers and new actor-lecturer offers all the variety that one could expect for a summer night's entertainment.

DEATH PENALTY IN MEXICO. Public Sentiment Is Generally Averse to Its Execution

From the Mexican Herald. Unless there occurs some check in the growth of the feeling of revulsion against capital punishment, the next generation in Mexico is likely to glean all its information regarding that interpretation of justice that demands a life for a life from history or from reports of executions in other countries.

In Mexico city it has been thirteen years since the legal execution of a private citizen has taken place. In Monterey it has been nine years. In other States years have elapsed since men paid the penalty for their crimes with their lives. In the courtyard of Belem the wall against which the condemned men were stood is scarred with bullet marks but prisoners have ceased to regard it with the terror they once might have felt and prison officials have fallen into the habit of regarding it more or less as a curlosity rather than as a part of the working machinery of the institu-

The last time a prisoner was stood before that wall was following the famous assault of a band of robbers on a jewelry store in Pla teros street. The place was looted and the proprietor, an old man, was murdered at time when the street was crowded. One of the robbers was Bruno Martinez. His execution was probably one of the most sensations as well as the last that was ever witnessed Mexico. He had secured a knife, and s the hour of his death ran amuck, wounding the chief of detectives and creating almost a panic before he was finally overpowered and forced to receive the bullets of the firing squad.

Merely taking advantage of the opportu nities offered by law serves to enable the conlemned man in Mexico to escape death for many months, but after every appeal has peen taken it is a question of commutation or execution. Possibly no man condemned to death can rest with assurance that by exer cise of official elemency he will escape death, but it is doubtful if there is an attorney in the country who would not feel almost confident that in the end be could obtain for his client a commutation of the sentence to twenty

years imprisonment.

This condition of affairs is due largely to the feeling in the matter entertained by the chief executive, but a few years ago there was issued in this country a flood of literature giving the arguments against capital punishment. These works were widely read, and the sentiment thus created has doubtless done much toward reducing the number of capital punishments.

As long as capital punishment is authorized by the laws of the country it is probable that the method of execution will be shooting.
This method of legally sending a soul into eternity is one that causes the people of other countries to shriek with horror, but after al there probably has never been suggested a more humane means of ending the life of a man. If there can be assurance that the men with the rifles shoot straight there can can be little doubt that death will be as nearly instantaneous as that prescribed by any other

Certainly at the time Mexico adopted the method of shooting it was an improvement over the garrote—a device not worse and not better than hanging if a merciful executioner stood behind the post. But not every executioner in the days when the garrote flourished was a merciful being. It was the garrote the Spaniards brought to Mexico. As long as they retained their power here it was the common machine of execution. On the retirement of the Spaniards the figing squad took the place of the excutioner and their rifles he place of the garrote.

Executions of soldiers for infringement on ilitary discipline are still not uncommon but even executions of this class are more rare now than they once were, and it is not impossible that the day may come when it must be an exceedingly grave and atrocious crime that will bring for the perpetrator, whether civilian or soldier, a heavier sen-tence than that which can be given within the prison walls.

NARROW ESCAPE FROM A SHARK Big Fish Leaped Into a Beat After a Plump Little Darky Boy

From the St. Nicholas.

The yellow fever was raging in the city of Vera Cruz that year, and one of the large West Indian liners which arrived on a certain day was obliged to anchor off in the harbor. A small boat, known as a dinger, floated astern, and in this an active young colored boy of about 15 was busily at work washing off the seats. The boat lurched over with a sudden dip as the boy bore his weight on one of the thwarts, and Pedro heard a warning shout from the steamer's deck just in time to give one terrified glanes around and to hear a noise he knew only

Without an instant's hesitation he jumped overboard from the opposite side of the boat. For as he looked he caught sight of the jaws of a great shark which, spying this tempting morsel of a plump little darky boy, had leaped toward the careened boat with open mouth. So vigorous was the shark's leap that as Pedro went over one side of the boat the shark flopped in at the other. Not being used to these surroundings, and missing his prey, he floundered around until his head bore down the gunwaie and he slid from the careening boat into the sea again before the people on the steamer could filing a harpoon at him. Almost as he disappeared poor Pedro's head popped up on the epoposite side of the boat, and in a terrible fright'he clambered into the dinger again, as thoroughly scared a young darky as ever had a narrew escape.

Had he not thus saved himself from the maneater, help from the steamer would have been necessary, and even then it is more than probable that the boy would not have been saved. This is a remarkable instance of the ferocity of a shark seeking his prey out of the water. So vigorous was the shark's leap that as

Swordfish Fought Capter. From the Boston Globe.

Capt. Charles York of the fishing schooner Eva Mildred had a catch of seventy-five large swordfish to dispose of yesterday morning, caught on the southeast Georges. Besides swordish to dispose of yesterday morning, caught on the southeast Georges. Besides his fish he had a part of a swordish sword to which there was a tale of narrow escape of one of the crew attached.

Edward Estes is the name of the fisherman who is congratulating himself on the bad aim of the swordish, the last one taken on the trip. It was late Wednesday afternoon when the lookout at the forstopmast sighted the fish floating on the surface of the water. He halled the deck, and the man at the wheel steered for the fish, the spearman making ready to strike at him. It proved a very big one, and the spearsman sent the lily iron into him with all his force.

The man on the deck holding the buoy attached to the lily iron rope had scarcely time to cast it overboard, so sudden was the dive of the surprised fish. It fell to Edward Estes to take the dory and go after the fish with a rowing mate. Estes caught up the buoy, and planting himself at the stern of the dory, began to pull in the line. As soon as the fish felt the first tug on the line he turned in the direction of the dory, and came for it like a fish. It bying within the fest of it, he came up upder it, and drave the hard, bony sword nearly two feet through the bottom, within a few inches of where Estes stood.

The sword caught fast, and the fish nearly

hard, bony sword nearly two feet through the bottom, within a few inches of where Estes atood.

The sword caught fast, and the fish nearly overturned the dory in his attempts to get free. Estes cut the intruding sword off at the bottom of the dory and the fish freed itself, and later was killed. The piece of sword cut off by Estes was kept on board as a

ANOTHER THEATER TO OPEN. | the water ride on the chute to the Courting | COTTON GROWING IN AFRICA.

PROSPECTS ALONG WEST COAST ARE NOT FAVORABLE.

Might Grow Well in Some Sections, but etien Would Not Affect American Supply-In Many Years There Might Be Preduced \$50,000 Bales, the Extreme Possibility for the Territory

The problem of British grown cotton

has been prominently before the public for the past three years, and West Africa is credited with being the most likely country for its successful commercial cultivation. The Royal British Cotton Growing Association in its report places great faith in the possibilities of the different West African colonies, but so far the results have been very poor and discouraging. The object of this article, writes a West Africa correspondent of the London Times, is to give the public some idea of the prospects and possibilities of British West Africa together with particulars of the progress of cotton growing up to the present date. The climate, soil, population, means of transport and rainfall vary so much in the different colonies that to give a true account of the conditions and prospects each colony should be treated separately.

Legos at present is the most important colony from a cotton growing point of view, and possessing as it does a railway and a large area of country outside the palm oil tree belt it should be the first colony to give definite results. Cotton has always been grown by the Lagos Yoruba tribes, and in 1867 the exports consisted of \$58 tons, while during the thirty-five years ended 1901 raw cotton to the value of £500,000 was exported from the colony.

The population of Lagos and the Ilorin districts of Northern Nigeria may be taken not to exceed 2,500,000, and of this number fully two-thirds reside within the palm oil tree belt of country and are fully occupied with the existing forest products. The re-maining 800,000 are dependent upon cattle raising, guinea corn and local industries for their livelihood. Most of the cotton exported from Lagos has been grown outside the palm belt in the Ibadan, Oyo, Ilorin and Meko districts of the colony, and it may be taken as proved that cotton growing cannot compete successfully with the palm oil industry in the districts where the palm trees are plentiful, and for a permanent supply cotton buyers must depend upon the non-palm tree country.

It is estimated that under the most favorable cenditions-i. e., the creation of central buying stations, good transport facilities and high prices-the natives of Lagos colony may be able to produce 200,000 bales of cotton annually, in addition to their present forest and farm exports of palm oil. timber and cocoa; but, owing to the lack of transport facilities, bad roads and the failure to date of experiments to improve the quality of cotton grown, it will be many years before an output of 40,000 bales of

years before an output of 40,000 bales of cotton per annum is attained. Even apart from the question of cotton growing, Lagos colony is badly in need of good roads capable of carrying wheeled traffic, and until the roads and bridges are built the districts most suitable for cotton production will remain to a great extent untapped.

Experimental farming has been started by the Cotton Growing Association upon a large scale, and last year 120 acres were cleared and planted with American seed, but the resulting crop was a failure; and as the cotton plant's enemy, guines grass, is very prevalent in the colony, it is doubtful whether large plantations run by Europeans upon American lines will ever be successful. Other experiments with American cotton seed have also not been very can cotton seed have also not been very encouraging, and the question whether American or native cotton be most en couraged appears to have been settled in favor of the first named before sufficient

in favor of the first named before sufficient information had been collected upon the subject, and before it had proved itself adaptable to West African conditions.

The best native cotton from the Meko district is even now equal to American cotton as grown in Lagos. Whether it would not be better to improve the native variety with or without the help of American seed is a question which will eventually can seed is a question which will eventually have to be faced if cotton is to be grown. The Cotton Growing Association has established buying and ginning agencies at two stations on the Lagos government railway, and is now erecting a third ginnery upon its plantation. If the estimate of 40,000 bales is to be realized, agencies will have to be opened up in parts of the country away from the railway, where, owing to transport difficulties, it is doubtful if cotton growing will prove a commercial success. Cotton Growing Association has e

owing to transport difficulties, it is doubtful if cotton growing will prove a commercial success.

The colony of Southern Nigeria, adjoining Lagos, and now, for administrative purposes, attached to the latter, has so far given very unsatisfactory returns for the money spent by the Cotton Growing Association. A plantation upon the Sobo plains was mapped out last year and several hundred acres cleared and planted with American seed. About £5,000 is said to have been spent upon the concern during the year, and the resulting production of cotton, valued at less than £100, is very discouraging. The failure was undoubtedly due principally to climatic difficulties, poverty of soil and the inexperience of those responsible for the selection and working of the venture. The plantation has now been abandoned, and experiments are being carried out in other districts with a view of gaining more knowledge of the soil, seed and climate before launching out on a large scale again.\*

It may be taken for granted that over the greater portion of Southern Nigeria the natives will only cultivate the cotton plant, should a suitable seed be discovered, as a subsidiary farm product. Although in the districts bordering Northern Nigeria, where the country is more suitable to its growth, cotton may be produced as a staple article, a production of 20,000 tales will not be chronicled for many years, if ever. Southern Nigeria is the only colony possessing a river service giving good and ready transport facilities, but, being rich in forest products, timber, rubber and oil palms, it cannot be looked upon as being an agricultural country.

Cotton will undoubtedly grow well in the country and the country of the Colon well in the country at the country of the Colon well in the country and the country as producted upon as being an agricultural country.

cultural country.

Cotton will undoubtedly grow well in different parts of the Gold Coast Colony, but the transport difficulty, coupled with the demand for labor at the mines, is against but the transport difficulty, coupled with
the demand for labor at the mines, is against
its commercial development, and in the
Volta district, where agriculture has made
great strides during the past few years,
the cocca tree has taken a firm grasp of
the natives' attention, and, upon the whole,
the cotton question is not likely to be favorably answered under the conditions
likely to rule the labor market in the Gold
Coast Colony for many years to come.
The railway running from Sekondi to
Kumassi was built to serve the gold mines,
and as the country around it is densely
wooded and does not contain a large population, it cannot do much to help the cotton
industry. It will not pay to clear the bush
near the railway, and, consequently, when
the transport systems and facilities for
cotton handling in West Africa are considered, the Gold Coast Railway need be
given scant attention while its terminus given scant attention while its terminus

given scant attention while its terminus is at Kumassi.

The colony of Sierra Leone has, in common with that of the Gambia, a very heavy rainfall, and, although cotton is grown in most parts of these colonies, they do not possess the population necessary for the development of cotton upon a large scale. The lack of population is much against the cultivation of great quantities of cotton, more especially as fully a third of the people reside in the palm tree district and may be reckoned as taking a minor interest in cotton growing. The population may n cotton growing. The population may be roughly estimated at 800,000 for the

two colonies.

The stable food raised all over Sierra Leone is rice, and it is customary to grow cotton and cassava mixed with the rice, and good results are apparently obtained in this way. There are no great forests in the cotton districts, and the low bush is easily cleared. The cotton association's plantation in Sierra Leone was a failure last year, tion in Sierra Leone was a failure last year.

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and the American seed bearnet proved a success co far. It is estimated that under the most favorable conditions filters Leone could not produce more than 120,000 bales of the next ten years of 6,000 bales will be the utmost that can be expected. This last figure will not be reached under present conditions, and a great deal of money will need to be spent upon roads and transport arrangements before it is realized.

If West African cotton is to have any appreciable effect upon the world's cotton market, Northern Nigeria is the only colony capable of effecting the desired end. It has a large population, variously estimated at about 20,000,000, and its people are undoubtedly more intelligent than the majority of West African natives. The great drawback to the development of the industry is lack of transport. This can only be remedied by the help of the Niger River, railways and good roads. Horses and cattle live well in nearly every district, and roads should be easy to make is the thickly populated provinces. A good steamboat service upon the rivers is necessary if cotton is to be a success, and a great deal of money will have to be spent before large quantities of cotton are produced.

Most of the country is without the palm oil tree belt, and, given cheap transport and suitable seed, Northern Nigeria could produce all the cotton required to prevent a repetition of last year's cotton crisis, but it will be very slow work for many years, and millions of pounds will have to be spent upon the country. Railways, not one, but several, will have to be constructed before the country is opened up, and until such railways age built and river transport made easy West Africs will be of no importance, to the cotton, producing world. The colomies—6-Lagos, Southern Nigeria, Gold Coast, Sierra Leone and Gambia, under the most favorable circumstances, if e.e. good reads, transport facilities, central buying and ginning stations, and financial assistance, will not be capable of producing more than 350,000 bales, and these figure

plant.

This is equal, owing to the present heavy West Africa steamer freights and inland transport charges, to a landed price in England of from 5d. to 5/4d. per pound lint cotton, and, if even moderate quantities are to be shipped, both the natives and steamship owners will have to accept lower rates in order to compete with the American article. Much of the cotton exported this year from West Africa has been sold in England at a loss of id. per pound, and such a state of affairs cannot continue very long. The lack of population, the compe-

such a state of affairs cannot continue very long. The lack of population, the competition of the natural forest products, palm oil, kernels, rubber and mahogany, and the mining industry all tend to make the cultivation of cotton difficult and of minor importance to the majority of the natives.

Last year it was stated in public that the output from West Africa in five years time would be 500,000 bales of 400 pounds each, but it is impossible to secure information supporting such an estimate, and if by the end of 1909 the year's figures are to read 50,000 bales, a tenth part of such estimate, the economic conditions of Lagos, Sierra Leone, Gold Coast, Cambia and Southern Nigeria will have to change very rapidly. Leone, Gold Coast, Gambia and Southern Nigeria will have to change very rapidly. The production this year will be about 6,000 bales.

QUEER ANIMAL SUPERSTITIONS. Play Important Part in Many Religions of the World.

The pig plays a part in many beliefs. Mr Hickson, who traveled much in the Celeberand adjacent islands, says the London Globe, found a tribe who believed that the whole earth is borne by a pig belonging to the god Mak-a-wa-lang, who dwells in the under world, and that the frequent earthquaker in that region are caused by the pig rubbing itself against the trees.

Some of the inhabitants, however, asser that the world does not stand on the pig itself, but on a number of piles, and it is against these that the porker rubs itself, with such terrible results. Another example of pig superstition is found in the mythology of the East, from which one learns that whe the earth was hidden away by the malice of a giant the god Vishnu took upon himsel the form of a great boar. This animal had flery tusks, with which it rooted the earth up from the depths of Patalas, putting it once more in its proper place. This circum stance places the pig high in the estimation of a large portion of the people of Asia by associating it with his third Avatar, in com-memoration of which the god is sometimes represented in Hindu temples

head of a pig. Animals generally, however, have not insignificant positions in the realms of superstition. Thus, in Holland and Belgium, t kill a stork is considered one of the greatest misfortunes that could happen to a man, for ill luck is certain to follow him through life. In the Ural Mountains the peasantry believe that if a wolf sees a man before the man sees the wolf the man will be struck dumb and remain so as long as the wolf lives. The Eskimos consider that bad for-tune will follow a hunter unless whenever he kills a polar bear he cuts off the animal's nose and throws it on the ice. The Lapps, too, believe that the bear is invested with supernatural powers, and consequently neve mention his name, speaking of him as "God's
dog," or "the old man in the fur cloak." The screeching of an owl or the killing of one, as well as the croaking of a raven, or the

crowing of a hen, are also sometimes regarded as indications of coming calamity. But some of the most interesting superstitions are connected with death. In some country districts of England and Germany there is an idea that if the bees swarm upon a rotten tree there will be a death in the family owning or living on the propert within a year. In Greenland when a child dies the natives bury a live dog with it, to be used by the child as a guide to the other

way anywhere. A prettier custom prevails among the Sen eca Indians when a maiden dies. A young bird is imprisoned until it first begins to sing, and then they kiss it and set it at liberty over the girl's grave, believing that it will not fold its wings nor close its eyes until it has flown to the spirit land and delivered its burden of affection to the departed one. In this way it is not uncommen for a score of birds to be set loose over the same grave The Mojaves say that all the dead who are not cremated are turned into owls, and the screeching of one of these birds at night they imagine to be caused by the spirit of some dead Moiave.

And in the Mohammedan creed animals have a place. Among the beliefs of the followers of the Prophet is one that eleven animals were admitted to Paradise. These were the dog Khatim, of the Seven Sleepers of Ephesus; Balaam s ass; Selomon's ant, were the dog khaim, of the Sevens Steepers of Ephesus; Balaam's ass; Solomon's ant, the particular one which reproved the sluggard; Jonah's whale, Ishmael's ram, the camel of Saleb, the cuckoo of Belkis, the ox of Moses; Al Borak, the animal which conveyed Mohammed to heaven; the ass on which Christ rode into Jerusalem, and the one on which the Queen of Sheba rode when she paid her famous visit to Solomon. This is not, however, by any means the only superstitious belief concerning Paradise. For instance, many of the South Sea Islanders believe that heaven can only be inherited by persons whose physical forms are perfect. Where this idea prevails a man will die rather than submit to amputation. It would seem that John Chinaman's pigtall owed its axcistence to the belief that it would form a convenient handle by which one day he would be lifted into Paradise.

Beyond His Limit.

From the Boston Hereld. During the civil war soldiers were very apt to become intoxicated, as liquor was someto become intoxicated, as liquor was sometimes the only drink they could get. One
soldier who was in the habit of becoming
intoxicated was remonstrated with by the
Colonel of his regiment, the conversation
which took place being as follows:

"You are a remarkably clean man, sir."

"Thank you, Colonel."

"But, sir, you have bad habits."

"I am sorry for that, Colonel."

"You drink, sir."

"I am sorry for that."

"Oh, I know ou are sorry, but why don't
you drink like me?"

"Colonel, I couldn't do it; it would kill me."

BEVIVAL OF WALKING. Discarded Sport to the Bestered to Cham

Walking contests are to be revived by the Amateur Athletic Union, and these fine healthy events, which for years graced the championship program will adern it once again. There has been no walking since 1884, when W. B. Fetterman of the New York A. C. won the mile championship in 6 minutes 44 4-5 seconds at Chicago, where the meeting took place. The year previous the three mile walk was dropped although both competitions had been on

It was said the walks were eliminated to make way for the highly problematical and senseless exercise of throwing the discus. This substitution was caused by the victory of an American, Bobert Garrett of Princeton, at the first revival of the Olympic games at Greece in 1806.

For a while afterward the athletes here

the championship list since the first meet,

were simply discus mad and, of course, the A. A. U. legislators had to add it to the program at the expense of the time honored branch of modern athletics. Now there is a reaction, for familiarity has shown that discus throwing is no real test of muscular power, for the big men who excel at the shet nammer and "56" cannot throw it at all It requires a knack, like flinging the boomerang, and one who cannot master this secret, no matter how strong he may be, cannot scale the thing even a respectable distance Next fall both at the metropolitan and national conventions steps will be taken to have the walks inserted in the program. The discus will be dropped and consigned to an appropriate oblivion. Many of the oldtime athletes and patrons

of sport in the early days favor the revival of walking and state that it should never have been dropped. A lot of the oldtime walkers are around yet hale and hearty, while not a few who attracted international attention to the sport have joined the great majority. Among these are Billy Meek of the old West Side A. C., and the only American to win an English walking championship. He orossed in 1884, and when the distance was seven miles seoured the British title in 54 minutes 25 seconds, a performance which had only thrice been besten since the institution of the English meet in 1886. Meek's method of progress was the personification of a fair heel and toe step, and the English critics admitted the unquestionable fairness. He won the American championship at seven miles in 1883 in 56 minutes 48 2-5 seconds, but after his return from England became a professional. Subsequently he was reinstated by the A. A. U. and won the Canadian championship of 1891. Soon afterward he developed Bright's disease, which caused

dian championship of 1891. Soon afterward he developed Bright's disease, which caused his end. Another familiar walker who has passed away is Ching Lang, winner of the mile in 1896 and 1887 and of the three miles in 1887 and 1888. Tommy Letson of the New York A. C., one of the younger brigade, is no more, he having succumbed to pneumonia a couple of years ago.

Of the past champions who are around it is reported that a few will be on hand to try how the flight of years has dealt with their walking muscles. Sam Liebgold of the Pastime A. C.; winner of the three miles from 1892 to '98, and the mile from '94 to '97, has kept in fair trim and will be ready at the first revival event. His brother Louis will also be ready for the fray. Tom Sherman of the New York A. C., who accounted for the mile in '91, '92 and '93, is to be seen daily in the lower part of the town and looking in fair shape. Frank P. Murray of the old Williamsburg A. C. is yet in the land of the living, but it is improbable that he will try for further glory "Cinders," as he was familiarly known, "died" and came to life once before, and he said it was enough and more than enough for any mortal.

Away back in the early '90s Cinders made his debut and in a short time was a veritable iconoclast among the record tables. On Oct. 22, 1883, he walked the Away back in the early '80s Cinders made his debut and in a short time was a veritable iconoclast among the record tables. On Oct. 22, 1883, he walked the mile in 6 minutes 29 3-5 seconds, the best record for an amateur, and it is a remarkable fact that it has withstood the assaults of walkers the world over ever since. The May following Murray made the two miles in 13 minutes 48 3-5 seconds and this mark was only beaten last year by G. E. Larner, the English champion. Murray went to England in 1884, but the walking officials there thought his style was not a fair one, and he was several times disqualified for "lifting." His record for three miles, 21 minutes 9 1-5 seconds, made on Nov. 6, 1883, has never since been eclipsed.

After his return from England in '84 Murray won the American three mile championship and retired. As he afterward said, himself, he was dead for six long years, but the glare and glitter of the New York A. C.-Manhattan A. C. fight for the Bailey, Banks and Biddle plaque stirred the blood in "Cinders," and he prepared for the three miles. Those who were at the games on Onalostan Island, Washington, well remember the exhibition of speed given by Murray. When he stepped on his mark there was a buzz of compassion for "Cinders," and many of those unacquainted with the veteran's record said it was a shame to let the old man kill himself. But at the crack of the pistol "Cinders" bounded away, his shiny bald head glistening in the sunlight, and at the finish of the first lap had a lead of five or six yards on Nicoll and Lang. The wise ones predicted, of course, that he would "blow up" before the end, but the further he went the finer was his stride and the freer his action, until he won by half a lap in 22 minutes 38 3-5 seconds. The six years he had lain dormant he lived over in that one night in Washington after the games were over.

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The reason for the revival of walking was that a number of ex-athletes were anxious for it and sorry that it should ever have been left off the program. Two of the most prominent are Hugh H. Baxter, the millionaire athlete and ex-champion pole vaulter of the New York A. C., and Harry E. Buermeyer, the ex-champion shot putter and boxer and one of the founders of the New York A. C. Speaking of the inclusion of the walking events in future meets, Mr. Baxter said: "We are perhaps the most impressionable nation in the world and at all times too ready to adopt any old fad or custom that might happen along from Europe or any other country. At the most, this discus is a crazy event and no test of an athlete. The proof of the assertion is that the two men—Garrels and Sheridan—most expert at it to-day could not if they tried for a century make a second with any of the other three weights. Garrels is a good quarter miler and fairly efficient with the shot, and there you have his limit.

"Sheridan's strongest point outside of the front rank compete he is not heard of. But, of course, he has shown himself to be a first class all around performer. The shot, 56 and hatomer afford ample variation in the weight throwing department without catering to an additional item for the purpose of developing the knacks and tricks of hig men.

"That the walks should have been removed to make way for this nondescript sport is certainly deplorable. Every

That the walks should have been removed to make way for this nondescript sport is certainly deployable. Every country in the world where athletics is practised has had walking races, and they are there to-day. We had them on our first program in 1876 and should have them now if we were only as consistent in our methods as the English or other people who take their sports the right way. No, because somebody comes along, and tells us a thing is wrong we instantly believe him and change to his idea.

"It is even a wonder we have the events in their present shape and that we are not trying to run on our hands or attempting to hop on our heads or some other stunt that some lunatic might suggest. Look at the amount of trouble the A. A. U. officials to-day are having with this so-called game of basketball. They get mere trouble by this thing than by the track and field sports. And it is the same case as formerly with baseball, football and billiards. I cannot understand why walking was ever dropped. It is one of the finest exercises, and decidedly a variation on an athletic program. It could come in between the heats and finals of a 220 or 440 yards, or any place, and be a relief from the monotony of

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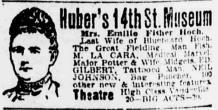
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